

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Attention: News Director  
For Immediate Release  
March 2, 2007**



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
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Western District of Kentucky**

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**ATLANTA, GEORGIA, MAN SENTENCED FOR  
TRANSPORTING ILLEGAL ALIENS**

***-- Illegals deported***

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that on March 1, 2007, **SOLYENJSEN MALDONADO**, a United States citizen, age 25, of 1832 Sumpter Street, Atlanta, Georgia, **was sentenced** in United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky, for transportation of illegal aliens.

John G. Heyburn, II, Chief Judge, United States District Court, sentenced **Maldonado** to a guideline sentence of 8 months imprisonment (4 months to be served on home electronic monitoring), plus 2 years supervised release following incarceration. **There is no parole in the federal judicial system.**

**Maldonado** pled guilty and admitted that on November 2, 2006, in Bullitt County, Kentucky, he transported and moved two illegal aliens from Atlanta, Georgia to Louisville, Kentucky for the purpose of commercial advantage and private financial gain. The two illegal aliens whom **Maldonado** transported have already been deported back to Mexico.

On November 2, 2006, federal agents were searching the area near the Econo-Lodge motel located off the I-65 Brooks exit, just south of Louisville, Kentucky. During their search of the

Econo-Lodge, federal agents approached a room that was later found to be occupied by **Maldonado**, Uriel Sanchez-Pineda and Jose Pineda-Mendez. Upon the federal agents knocking on the door, **Maldonado** answered the door, while Sanchez-Pineda and Pineda-Mendez remained inside the motel room.

It was then determined that Sanchez-Pineda and Pineda-Mendez were citizens of Mexico who had illegally entered and remained in the United States. Both Sanchez-Pineda and Pineda-Mendez admitted the same. Upon interviewing **Maldonado**, he admitted to the federal agents that he had transported both Sanchez-Pineda and Pineda-Mendez from Atlanta, Georgia to Louisville, Kentucky in a 1998 Ford Expedition that was parked in the Econo-Lodge parking lot. **Maldonado** further revealed that the reason he transported Sanchez-Pineda and Pineda-Mendez was because they were both illegally in the United States and that they did not have a license to drive in the United States. **Maldonado** further admitted that he was getting paid \$150/day for transporting the aliens.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Daniel P. Kinnicutt, and it was investigated by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

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